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RIBBON CUTTING RE-OPENS "NORTH CALICO" ON OCTOBER 11.

Nearly 14 months after North Calico burned to the ground, a ribbon cutting is set to open the revitalized section of the historic ghost town near Barstow, CA. A ceremony is scheduled for Friday, October 11 at 12 noon and takes place at the entrance to Calico's famous Mystery Shack – one of only a few in the western U.S.

San Bernardino County First District Supervisor, Bill Postmus plans to cut the ribbon after a brief ceremony honoring all who put the July 24, 2001 fire out and rebuilt the town to resemble its 1880's appearance. "The County is grateful to all those who had a hand in saving and rebuilding this historic site," states Postmus. "Calico is a vital part of our past, and something of interest to visitors worldwide."

Rebuilding North Calico cost nearly \$1 million, paid for through insurance held by San Bernardino County. The ghost town is a county run regional park.

Born in 1881, and like all mining camps of its time, Calico was susceptible to fire and burned down three times. After the fire of 1890, it was determined that every fifth building be constructed out of adobe to serve as a firebreak.

The five buildings in North Calico were not originals, but careful recreations built in the 1950's from old photographs by Walter Knott, then owner of Calico. The fifth building, Calico's Pottery Shop, was made of adobe and served as a firebreak preventing the fire from spreading to the rest of town.

Two buildings are now occupied, the Calico Pottery Shop and the Candle/Basket Shop. The Mystery Shack will open October 11.

The ribbon cutting officially opens the 36th annual Calico Days celebration, October 11-13. For more information log onto www.calicotown.com or call the ghost town at 1-800-TO-CALICO.

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